

**Minutes of the
North Carolina State Board of Education
University of North Carolina - Wilmington
The Watson College of Education
Wilmington, NC
April 7, 2016**

The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

William Cobey, Chairman	Reginald Kenan
A.L. "Buddy" Collins, Vice Chairman	Wayne McDevitt
Greg Alcorn	Kevin Howell
Eric C. Davis	Rebecca Taylor
Greg Alcorn	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	James E. Ford, Teacher of the Year Advisor
Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent Advisor	

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

State Board of Education Chairman William Cobey called the Thursday session of the April 7, 2016, State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Cobey reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. There were no conflicts of interest communicated at this time. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the Chairman. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

Chairman Cobey explained that the Board was having a one-day meeting this month on the campus of the University of North Carolina Wilmington. He explained further that the Board arrived in Wilmington on Tuesday as a part of its Planning and Work Session, noting that for the past couple of years, the Board has held these Planning and Work Sessions in cities and towns across the state and have held their actual Board meetings on the campuses of the public universities.

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Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Reginald Kenan was recognized to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

➤ Welcoming Remarks:

- ❖ **Dr. Jose Sartarelli (Chancellor, University of North Carolina Wilmington)**
- ❖ **Dr. Michael Bracy (Superintendent, Jones County, Representing the Southeast District Superintendents)**
- ❖ **Dr. Tim Markley (Superintendent, New Hanover County Schools)**

Chairman Cobey recognized Chancellor Dr. Jose Sartarelli for the official welcome to the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

Chancellor Sartarelli welcomed and thanked the State Board of Education for holding its meeting on the University campus. He expressed appreciation for the State Board's dedication and service to the students and welcomed the opportunity to strengthen the community connection with meetings such as these. He stated that UNCW is proud of the Watson College of Education and its collaboration with 150 schools in the region. He noted that they are celebrating the 10th anniversary of Isaac Bear Early College High School.

He pointed out that SAT scores of UNCW incoming freshmen have climbed 88 points in recent years. This year it is 1191, third highest in state; they are aiming at 1250 in the upcoming years. Current freshmen arrive with a 4.11 GPA average. The freshman to sophomore retention rate is 85% with its goal of 90% by 2021. The graduation rate for students graduating within four-years is 53% and 71% within six years. UNCW also has a 77% graduation rate for students transferring from community colleges.

Education Trust ranked UNCW eighth among underrepresented minorities at national comprehensive public institutions that made most impressive gains in six-year graduation rates among underrepresented minorities reducing the gap between white and minority students between 2003-13. UNCW increased the graduation rate for African American students by 18% and reduced the graduation gap between African American and Caucasian students by 11% - the seventh best overall of 232 universities in the country. Dr. Sartarelli asked the Board to keep sending them great students, stating that they would make sure to build on the knowledge they have gained in North Carolina public schools and empower them to graduate prepared for lives of leadership and service in the state, our nation and the world.

Dr. Michael Bracey, Superintendent of Jones County Schools in the Southeast District, brought greetings on behalf of the Southeast Alliance. He noted that Dr. Linda Lowe, Executive Director of the Southeast Alliance, recently announced her retirement and he thanked her publicly for her leadership. He mentioned that he is a proud 2013 graduate of the Ed.D. program at UNCW.

Dr. Tim Markley, Superintendent of New Hanover County Schools, brought greetings on behalf of 26,000 students and 3,700 employees of New Hanover County Schools. He made brief comments and then announced he would be departing to attend 2016 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year event, as New Hanover County had a finalist for the third year in a row.

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Before the speakers departed, Chairman Cobey, on behalf of the State Board, presented each of them a token of appreciation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

As the first order of business, Chairman Cobey drew attention to the full meeting agenda. He noted that the materials have been posted on eBoard. The Chairman asked if there were any other changes to the agenda that Board members wished to request. Mr. Eric Davis requested consent from the Board to remove SLA 6 from the agenda to refer back to SLA Committee for further work. Hearing no objections, Chairman Cobey asked for a motion to approve the State Board of Education meeting agenda for April 7, 2016, as amended.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion made by Mr. Greg Alcorn, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the Board voted unanimously to approve the State Board of Education meeting agenda for April 7, 2016, as amended.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Cobey asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2016, State Board of Education conference call meeting and the March 2 and 3, 2016, State Board of Education meeting.

Discussion/Comments:

- There was no discussion.

Mr. Eric Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2016, State Board conference call and the March 2 and 3, 2016, State Board of Education meeting. Seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Give Five – Read Five Summary

Summer Reading Book Program Launches in Charlotte

On March 23, DPI kicked off its fourth annual statewide Give Five – Read Five campaign at Winding Springs Elementary School in Charlotte. As a part of this initiative, first launched in 2013, districts, schools, businesses, nonprofits, churches and other community partners conduct book drives from April to early June. Books from these local drives are then distributed to students to provide them with quality reading material over the summer and reduce summer learning loss.

- Since the campaign’s beginning, more than 946,000 new and gently used books have been sent home with students as a part of Give Five – Read Five and similar efforts.
- Once again in 2016, the four schools that collect the most books will receive a free one-year schoolwide license to online literacy tools provided by Achieve3000, Reading Horizons and myOn.
- As a part of this year’s campaign and thanks to a new partnership with myON, a division of Capstone, DPI is offering every school district in the state access to the personalized literacy tool myON Reader.
- Students at every grade level in participating schools will be able to use this tool during the summer months to select from thousands of titles and download free books well-matched to their reading levels and personal interests.
- As an added bonus, parents can use the tool to track how many pages and hours students spend reading and even measure their literacy growth while they are away from the classroom.

Visit <http://thefutureinreading.myon.com/NCGiveFive-ReadFive> to learn more. To learning more and access resources to help schools and community partners conduct their own book drives, visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/give5read5/>.

State Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council

The Superintendent’s Parent Advisory Council met on March 16 in Raleigh. Agenda topics included

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Standards Review Process
- Proof of Concept
- Parent Engagement

New Additions Join DPI Team

- Meera Phaltankar (Accounting Director, Financial and Business Services, Financial Services)
- Anita Harris (Education Program Administrator, Program Monitoring & Support)
- Beth Gilchrist (Education Consultant, Exceptional Children)
- Kristi Harris (Education Program Administrator, Exceptional Children)
- Marianne Latham (Business and Technology Application Analyst, Infrastructure Support)
- Audrey Martin-McCoy (Ed. Planning and Development Consultant, State Board of Education)
- Leslie Spell (Education Program Administrator, K-12 Curriculum and Instruction)
- Gerri Martin (Education Program Director, Educator Recruitment and Development)
- Dan Urbanski (Technical Support Specialist, Exceptional Children Technical Services)

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Recent Activities of the State Superintendent

Attended and/or Delivered Remarks/Keynote Address

- Council of State, Raleigh, NC
- NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey kickoff, Youngsville, NC
- Wake County Farm Bureau legislative breakfast, Raleigh, NC
- Southwest Education Alliance, Charlotte, NC
- Education Forum, Statesville, NC
- Hispanic Educational Summit, Raleigh, NC
- Western Region Education Service Alliance, Raleigh, NC
- Central Carolina Regional Education Service Alliance, Raleigh, NC
- Southeast Education Alliance, Goldsboro, NC
- Students@Work event, Morrisville, NC
- Education Forum – Alpha Gamma Chapter DKG, Boone, NC
- NCAE 46th Annual Convention, Winston-Salem, NC
- EdCamp, China Grove, NC
- Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement, Greensboro, NC
- Synergy Conference, Raleigh, NC
- Taste of Success Dinner, Fuquay-Varina Middle School, Fuquay-Varina, NC
- Give Five – Read Five press conference, Charlotte, NC
- Parent Testing Group, Charlotte, NC
- Seymour Johnson Airforce Base tour, Goldsboro, NC
- NC Conference of UMC Video Recording, Garner, NC
- WRAL Documentary on Teacher Pay
- Politics of P-12 Education class, Rocky Mount, NC

Visited

- Riverdale Elementary School, Clayton, NC
- I. Ellie Johnson Elementary School, Laurinburg, NC
- Carver Middle School, Laurel Hill, NC
- Scotland High School, Laurinburg, NC
- Wake Forest Charter Academy, Wake Forest, NC
- Winding Springs Elementary School, Charlotte, NC
- Shamrock Gardens Elementary School, Charlotte, NC
- Heritage Elementary School, Wake Forest, NC

Memorandum of Understanding with Spain

Dr. Atkinson announced that she and Chairman Colby have signed an extended MOU with the Ministry of Spain. The State Board and the Department of Public Instruction first signed an MOU in 1995. DPI staff will work with a designee from Spain. She said that we appreciate the opportunity to continue with this MOU.

Dr. Atkinson recognized Board member Patricia Willoughby, who stated that she is excited about the continuation of the MOU, especially in light of State Board's emphasis on globalization. She noted that in the past DPI worked with Visiting International Faculty (VIF) to do the visa sponsorship, and now DPI must choose another sponsor to do the visas. Dr. Atkinson shared that the Department already has a process in place.

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Board member Wayne McDevitt expressed appreciation for the continuation of MOUs, noting that the Global Education Task Force continues its work and that expansion of MOUs is one of its recommendations. He also noted that a number of Global Ready Schools and Districts, as well as teacher global badges, are in the queue.

Dr. Atkinson, with permission of the Chairman, left early to attend the 2016 Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year Awards after recognizing Ms. Beaulieu for the Legislative Update.

Legislative Update

Superintendent Atkinson recognized Ms. Rachel Beaulieu to provide the legislative update.

Ms. Beaulieu drew attention to the summary of the legislative agenda for the Short Session and requested that the Board give its blessing to the final agenda that was posted on eBoard. Chairman Cobey explained that the draft becomes a final document with consensus from the Board.

Action Items

- 1. Professional Development/Educator Effectiveness:** Invest in our teaching workforce and leadership. Enhance Educator Effectiveness through proven measures of training:
 - a. Professional Development that improves student outcomes
 - b. Distinguished Leadership in Practice
 - c. Intensive Coaching for “D” and “F” schools
- 2. Teacher Leaders/Teacher Pay:** Maintain and improve our state’s commitment to the teaching profession.
 - a. Boost teachers’ salaries to #1 in the Southeast.
 - b. Institute targeted Master’s and Doctoral Pay.
 - c. Ensure a high-quality, sustainable NC teacher recruitment plan.
 - d. Allow measures of local discretion on any differentiated pay pilot.
- 3. Increase Principal/Assistant Principal Pay:**
 - a. Pull average salaries out of the bottom rankings in the region.
 - b. Provide more Assistant Principal positions in each district.
- 4. Textbooks/Digital Resources:** Reinstate the textbook funding level to \$77.16 per student (from \$29.05 in FY 2015-16).
- 5. Digital Learning:** Provide the support and infrastructure necessary to reach the Digital Learning goal of 2017 set by the General Assembly.
 - a. Secure classroom technology needs during implementation of the Instructional Improvement System within Home Base.
 - b. Manage delivery of instructional tools and resources for the Home Base system, accessible by all 115 school districts and charter schools.
- 6. NC Virtual Public School:**
 - a. Increase staffing capacity to accommodate increased demand for new course development and innovation.
 - b. Exempt NC Virtual Public School from the Umstead Act for both short- and long-term sustainability.
- 7. Instructional Supplies:** Reinstate the per student funding level to \$59.33 (from \$28.38).
- 8. Turn Around Low-Performing Schools:** Continue proven support for principals, teachers and superintendents in lowest achieving schools and districts.
 - a. Invest in NC’s District and School Transformation model for, at minimum, the lowest 5% of schools and 10% of districts.

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- b. At minimum, remove “D” Schools that Meet Growth from the state law definition of “low-performing schools.”

9. **A-F School Performance Grades:** At minimum, continue the 15-point scale for the 2016-17 school year.

10. **School Calendar Flexibility:**

- a. Allow alignment of the school calendar with that of community colleges and universities to enhance learning opportunities.
- b. Permit schools given a “D” or “F” under the A-F School Performance Grades law to adopt a modified calendar.

11. **Early Childhood Education:**

- a. Lift unnecessarily-doubled regulatory scheme off of public Pre-K classrooms.
- b. Increase slots for more at-risk children to be served in Pre-K.
- c. Improve continuum for Early Childhood Education delivery.

12. **Child Nutrition/School Nurses:**

- a. Invest in the child nutrition NC Procurement Alliance (where every \$1.00 invested saves LEAs \$6.00) and support further implementation of the Child Nutrition Program standards.
- b. Increase number of School Nurses (progress toward nationally-recommended ratio of 1 nurse: 750 students; NC’s current ratio is 1:1,112).

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Cobey requested a motion to convene in Closed Session. He noted for the audience that immediately following adjournment of the Board’s Closed Session; the Board will continue its Open Session.

Upon motion made by Mr. Buddy Collins, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to convene in Closed Session to consult with its attorneys on a legal matter and to seek attorney-client privilege advice from its legal team.

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CONSENT AGENDA

When the Board returned from Closed Session, Chairman Cobey moved to the Consent Agenda, which is reserved for items that generally create little or no debate such as routine appointments, items that come for information purposes only, routine reports, and final approval of reports that the Board has already discussed. Board members have always seen these materials prior to the Board meetings, and may ask that items be removed from the Consent agenda to be discussed on an individual basis.

Chairman Cobey noted a total of 12 items for consideration on the consent agenda. He asked if any Board members wanted to remove any item from the Consent Agenda. Hearing no requests, Chairman Cobey asked for a motion to approve SLA 1, SLA 2, SLA 3, SLA 4, HRS 1, HRS 2, EICS 1, EICS 2, EICS 3, EICS 4, EICS 5 and BSOP 1.

Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell, and seconded by Mr. Greg Alcorn, the Board voted unanimously to approve the slate of Consent Agenda items as presented. (See Attachments SLA 1, SLA 2, SLA 3, SLA 4, HRS 1, HRS 2, EICS 1, EICS 2, EICS 3, EICS 4, EICS 5 and BSOP 1.

STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT (Mr. Eric C. Davis, Chair; and Dr. Olivia Oxendine, Vice Chair)

CONSENT

SLA 1 – Student Advisory Council on Indian Education Annual Report

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-210; SBE Policy #TCS-B-001

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education and citizenship

Objective 1: Increase the cohort graduation rate

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state's End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent teachers.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support high effective teachers.

Objective 3.2: Develop and support highly effective principals.

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible.

Objective 5.1: Create and maintain a safe and respectful school environment.

Objective 5.3: Decrease the number of students who are chronically absent, dropout, or suspended out of school.

Objective 5.4: Decrease violence and crime in schools.

Presenter(s): Mrs. Kamiyo Lanning (Chairperson, State Advisory Council on Indian Education) and Dr. Ogletree Richardson (Liaison, NC Department of Public Instruction)

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Description:

The State Advisory Council on Indian Education serves a vital role in advising the State Board of Education on issues pertaining to the education of American Indian students. As legislatively mandated, the Council analyzes the academic performance of American Indian students in North Carolina's public schools outlining major findings and recommendations to the State Board of Education.

The full report analyzes student achievement data from the 2013-2015 performance on state tests, SAT participation and performance, Advanced Placement course participation and test performance, graduation and dropout rates and compares the performance of North Carolina's American Indian students to that of other representative student groups. The data reveal improvements and disparities between American Indian student scores and statewide scores. An electronic copy of the report has been provided to the Board and will be posted to <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/americanindianed/reports/>.

Recommendation(s):

The Council recommends that the Department of Public Instruction continue to work closely with school districts in promoting and disseminating carefully vetted resources specifically related to American Indian cultures. Additionally, the Council will work with the Department to design online professional development modules to support schools in the establishment of respectful environments for American Indian students.

CONSENT

SLA 2 – High School Accreditation

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-12(39); SBE Policy #GCS-B-000

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education and citizenship

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students prepared for postsecondary education.

Presenter(s): Ms. Debora Williams (Graduation and Dropout Prevention Initiatives)

Description:

High school accreditation is the process whereby schools (public and private) undergo a quality assurance process that includes self-reflection, analysis of student performance data and, if required, outside peer review or audit. Two schools are requesting accreditation from the State Board of Education:

1. Camden County High School
2. CamTech High School

For each of the schools listed above, NCDPI staff has examined the performance indicators outlined in SBE Policy #GCS-Q-000. The school has conducted a self-evaluation using the self-evaluation component of NCDPI's Comprehensive Needs Assessment.

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Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that this item be included for the Board’s April agenda for action.

CONSENT

SLA 3 – Committee of Practitioners Advisory Committee – New Policy

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #TCS-B-002; TCS-B-011; Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 4: Every school district has up-to-date financial, business, and technology systems to serve its students, parents and educators.

Objective 4.3: Use state and federal funding according to state and federal laws and State Board of Education policies.

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent) and Ms. Donna Brown (Director, Federal Program Monitoring and Support)

Description:

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law December 10, 2015, and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Section 1603(b) of the ESSA law requires each state education agency (SEA) that receives funds under ESSA to create a State Committee of Practitioners to advise the state in carrying out its responsibilities under ESSA.

The law requires that the membership of the committee be comprised of the following representatives:

1. teachers from traditional public schools and charter schools and career and technical educators,
2. principals and other school leaders,
3. parents,
4. members of local school boards,
5. representatives of private school children,
6. specialized instructional support personnel and paraprofessionals,
7. representatives of authorized public chartering agencies, and
8. charter school leaders.

Nominations and appointments will be made consistent with requirements of SBE policy #TCS-B-002, policy governing appointments to advisory committees to the State Board of Education. The proposed policy will allow the SEA to establish the committee to include the required representatives and to meet stakeholder consultation requirements for the development of the ESSA plan.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the proposed policy.

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CONSENT

SLA 4 – Approval of the School Calendar for the North Carolina Residential Schools for the Deaf and Blind

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #SLA-05-011

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible.

Objective 5.3: Decrease the number of students who are chronically absent, dropout, or suspended out of school.

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent) and Ms. Barbria Bacon, (Superintendent/School Director, Residential Schools for the Deaf and Blind)

Description:

The Residential Schools for the Deaf and Blind seek State Board of Education approval of the 2016-17 academic calendar for each school (the Governor Morehead School in Raleigh, the North Carolina School for the Deaf in Morganton, and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf in Wilson). A copy of the calendar for each of the three schools is attached, indicating the total number of days allocated for student instruction, teacher workdays, and holidays. The school calendars are attached to this item.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the school calendars for the Residential Schools for the Deaf and Blind as presented.

HEALTHY, RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS

(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair; Mr. Eric Davis, Vice Chair)

CONSENT

HRS 1 – Reports on Incidents of Seclusion and Restraint

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-391.1, 47(45)

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible.

Objective 5.2: Promote healthy and active lifestyles for students.

Presenter(s): Dr. Ben Matthews (Director, Safe and Healthy School Support) and Dr. Kenneth Gattis (Senior Research and Evaluation Coordinator, Safe and Healthy School Support)

Description:

G.S. §115C-391.1 describes permissible and impermissible uses of seclusion and restraint by school staff and incidents that must be reported to parents when they occur in schools. G.S. §111C-47(45) directs local boards of education to report those incidents annually to the State Board of Education.

Recommendation(s):

State Board members are requested to accept the attached report.

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CONSENT

HRS 2 – Healthy Active Children Policy Annual Report 2015

Policy Implications: SBE Policy HRS-D-000

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student is healthy, safe and responsible.

Objective 1.2: Promote healthy, active lifestyles for students.

Presenter(s): Dr. Tiffany Perkins (Director, K-12 Curriculum and Instruction Division) and Dr. Ellen Essick (Section Chief, NC Healthy Schools)

Description:

Each LEA is to submit its Healthy Active Children Policy (HRS-D-000) Report to DPI annually, on August 15. The summative report is presented to the State Board of Education for information and discussion each year. The report includes information regarding School Health Advisory Councils, minutes of physical activity, minutes of physical education, recess, and Coordinated School Health Program status and trend data since the 2003-04 school year. This report represents results from the 2014-15 school year.

Recommendation(s):

N/A

**EDUCATION INNOVATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Rebecca Taylor, Chair; Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair)**

CONSENT

EICS 1 – Recommended Amendments to Charter Agreement and Application

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218; Changes to Charter Agreement and Charter Application to reflect provisions of S.L. 2014-248 (H334)

SBE Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools), and Mr. Alex Quigley (Chair, Charter Schools Advisory Board)

Description:

In order to implement three separate statutory changes contained in North Carolina Session Law 2014-248 (H334), the Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) recommends two changes to the Charter Agreement and one change to the Charter Application.

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The recommended changes and their legislative antecedents are as follows:

Charter School Board Member Residency Requirement

Section I of the attached document contains the CSAB's proposed change to the section 4.1 of the current Charter Agreement to reflect the updated requirement that *the majority of board members and 50% or greater of the board officers for a charter school must have their primary residence in NC*. The State Board was not required legislatively to make this change, but the changes do conform the application to the following sections of S.L. 2014-248 (H334):

SECTION 6.(a) G.S. §115C-218.15 reads as rewritten:

"§115C-218.15. Charter school operation.

...

(e) The board of directors of the private nonprofit corporation operating the charter school may have members who reside outside of the state. However, the State Board of Education may require by policy that a majority of the board of directors and all officers of the board of directors reside within the state."

Charter School Board Conflict of Interest and Anti-Nepotism Policy

Section II of the attached document contains the CSAB's proposed change to the section 4.3 of the current Charter Agreement to reflect updated requirements for *how each charter school board must adopt and ensure compliance with a conflict of interest and nepotism policy*. The changes conform the application to the following sections of S.L. 2014-248 (H334):

SECTION 6.(a) G.S. §115C-218.15 reads as rewritten:

"§115C-218.15. Charter school operation.

...

(b) A charter school shall be operated by a private nonprofit corporation that shall have received federal tax-exempt status no later than 24 months following final approval of the application. The board of directors of the charter schools shall adopt a conflict of interest and anti-nepotism policy that includes, at a minimum, the following:

(1) The requirements of Chapter 55A of the General Statutes related to conflicts of interest.

(2) A requirement that before any immediate family, as defined in G.S. §115C-12.2, of any member of the board of directors or a charter school employee with supervisory authority shall be employed or engaged as an employee, independent contractor, or otherwise by the board of directors in any capacity, such proposed employment or engagement shall be (i) disclosed to the board of directors and (ii) approved by the board of directors in a duly called open-session meeting. The burden of disclosure of such a conflict of interest shall be on the applicable board member or employee with supervisory authority. If the requirements of this subsection are complied with, the charter school may employ immediate family of any member of the board of directors or a charter school employee with supervisory authority.

(3) A requirement that a person shall not be disqualified from serving as a member of a charter school's board of directors because of the existence of a conflict of interest, so long as the person's actions comply with the school's conflict of interest policy established as provided in this subsection and applicable law."

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Weighted Lotteries

Section III of the attached document contains the CSAB's proposed change to the current Charter Application to reflect updated *instructions for how applicants for charters should address any proposed weighted lottery*. The changes conform the application to the following sections of S.L. 2014-248 (H334):

SECTION 3.(a) G.S. §115C-218.1(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) The application shall contain at least the following information:

...

(15) The process for conducting a weighted lottery that reflects the mission of the school if the school desires to use a weighted lottery."

SECTION 3.(c) G.S. §115C-218.45 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(g1) If a procedure for a weighted lottery reflecting the mission of the school has been approved by the State Board as part of the charter, and a lottery is needed under subsection (h) of this section, the lottery shall be conducted according to the procedure in the charter."

Recommendation(s):

The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommends that the State Board of Education approve these changes to the Charter Agreement and Charter Application.

CONSENT

EICS 2 – Charter Amendment for Community School of Davidson

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218.1(3)(a)

SBE Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Mrs. Lisa Swinson (Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

State Board policy #TCS-U-014 Section 3 states that "Any proposed amendment not explicitly mentioned in TCS-U-014 must be reviewed and approved by the State Board of Education." Requests to amend a school's admissions procedure are not explicitly mentioned in TCS-U-014 and therefore must be approved by the State Board.

The Community School of Davidson (CSD) is seeking to amend its original charter to include an addendum that details its weighted lottery procedure.

This request aligns with G.S. §115C-218.1(3)(a), which states that "the process for conducting a weighted lottery [must reflect] the mission of the school." CSD's goal is to offer between 10% and 30%

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of new admissions annually to students who qualify for free or reduced lunch under the National School Lunch Program.

CSD’s mission statement is as follows: “The Community School of Davidson believes that every student can and will succeed in ways that reflect his or her own aptitudes and interests. Our mission is to use the principles of The Basic School to provide an optimal environment for learning in which: Teachers and parents work together to create an inclusive community of learning. Students are intrinsically motivated as lifelong learners through hands-on teaching, integrated curriculum and real life learning with meaningful community connections. Teachers are empowered and encouraged to teach to the needs of each individual student.”

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this charter amendment.

CONSENT

EICS 3 – Recommended Policy Amendments to Fast-Track Replication of High-Quality Charter Schools

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218; SBE Policy #TCS-U-016

SBE Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Mrs. Lisa Swinson (Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

The attached draft version of SBE Policy #TCS-U-016 contains amendments to the policy proposed by the Charter Schools Advisory Board in its January meeting, consistent with Section 9(a) of S.L. 2015-248, which directs the following:

“By January 15, 2016, upon written recommendations made by the Charter Schools Advisory Board (Advisory Board), the State Board of Education shall amend the process and rules for replication of high-quality charter schools established in North Carolina State Board of Education Policy #TCS-U-016 (Fast Track Replication of High Quality Charter Schools) to authorize consideration for fast-track replication of a charter application from a board of directors of a North Carolina nonprofit corporation who agrees to contract with an education management organization or charter management organization currently operating a charter school or schools in the state for at least a year, regardless of whether the board of directors has previously operated a charter school within the state.

The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 15, 2016, on the amendment to the process and rules for charter school replication as required by this section.”

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Recommendations:

The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommends that the State Board of Education approve this policy as amended.

CONSENT

EICS 4 – Recommendations of Action Plans from Academically Inadequate Schools

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218; SBE Policy #TCS-U-010

SBE Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Mr. Alex Quigley (Chair, Charter Schools Advisory Board)

Description:

Based on State Board of Education policy #TCS-U-010 (below), four schools were “inadequately performing” in 2014-15. The Charter Schools Advisory Board (CSAB) invited each of the four schools to appear at the November 16-17, 2015, CSAB meeting to address the inadequate academic performance. After hearing from each school the CSAB required that they provide the CSAB with an action plan addressing the inadequate performance. The letter to each school is included as an attachment to this item.

The CSAB reviewed each of the four schools’ action plans at its January 11-12, 2016, CSAB meeting. The CSAB voted to “accept” the action plans for Phoenix Academy and Rocky Mount Preparatory School, and recommends no action at this time for either school’s charters by the State Board until the review of student academic results for the 2015-16 school year.

The CSAB asked that Oxford Preparatory School and North East Carolina Preparatory School appear at the February CSAB meeting to address questions about their plans. After a review of the plans and presentations by each school, the CSAB recommends that the State Board accept the action plans submitted for Oxford Preparatory School and North East Carolina Preparatory School.

Based on SBE Policy #TCS-U-010, the State Board is not required to take any action in response to the four schools’ inadequate performance, but the State Board may take any action it deems appropriate. At this time, the CSAB does not recommend any action.

Per SBE Policy #TCS-U-010, both Oxford Preparatory School and North East Carolina Preparatory School “shall develop a strategic plan to meet specific goals for student performance that are consistent with State Board of Education criteria and mission approved in the charter school. The strategic plan shall be reviewed, and, if favorable, approved by the State Board of Education. If the charter fails to demonstrate improvement under the strategic plan within two years of the approval of the strategic plan, the State Board of Education may initiate revocation of the school's charter.”

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For information, the complete State Board of Education policy #TCS-U-010 is as follows:

- (a) A charter school is designated “inadequately performing” when, for two of three consecutive school years, the charter does not meet or exceed expected growth and has below 60% proficiency.
- (b) If a charter school is operated for more than five years and meets the definition of “inadequately performing,” the SBE may initiate revocation of the school's charter.
- (c) When a charter school operating within its first five years does not meet or exceed expected growth and has proficiency below 60% for two of three consecutive school years, the charter school shall develop a strategic plan to meet specific goals for student performance that are consistent with State Board of Education criteria and mission approved in the charter school. The strategic plan shall be reviewed, and, if favorable, approved by the State Board of Education. If the charter fails to demonstrate improvement under the strategic plan within two years of the approval of the strategic plan, the State Board of Education may initiate revocation of the school's charter.
- (d) This policy does not prohibit the State Board of Education from taking any action that is otherwise legal and appropriate pursuant to G.S. §115C-218.95.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve these recommendations.

CONSENT

EICS 5 – Request for One-Year Delay for Coastal Preparatory Academy

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218

SBE Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Dr. Kebbler Williams (Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

Coastal Preparatory Academy (New Hanover County) requests that the State Board of Education grant them a one-year delay in opening the charter school. In August 2015, the State Board of Education granted final approval to Coastal Preparatory Academy to open in August 2016.

In a February 2016 letter to the Office of Charter Schools, the nonprofit board that oversees Coastal Preparatory Academy states that it has experienced unexpected delays in its approval for its proposed facility site due to budget constraints and tight timelines for construction. The board’s request letter, which is included as an attachment, outlines the situation it currently faces.

Per their approved application, Coastal Preparatory Academy plans to open a K-5 school initially and expand one grade per year until the school is a full K-8 school serving over 700 students. The school's mission is as follows:

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“Coastal Preparatory Academy is dedicated to improving the lives of its students by providing authentic learning experiences in a collaborative, nurturing environment that will build a foundation for students’ success in school, career, and in life.” The school will use an instructional platform focused on four key design elements: authentic learning, collaboration, a nurturing environment, and technology skills.

The Office of Charter Schools supports Coastal Preparatory Academy’s request for delayed opening with the following stipulations:

1. The delayed year, within which the charter school does not serve students, will count as a year of what will become the signed charter agreement.
2. The board will provide monthly progress reports to the Office of Charter Schools regarding board meetings, marketing plans, and facility construction.
3. The board will present a Certificate of Occupancy for Education Use to the Office of Charter Schools no later than July 1, 2017. If that document is not presented, then the remainder of the charter term will be null and void, meaning that the board would need to submit a new application in a future application round in order to obtain a charter.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this one-year delay for Coastal Preparatory Academy with the above stipulations.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT (Mr. Gregory Alcorn, Chair; Mr. Kevin Howell, Vice Chair)

CONSENT

BSOP 1 – JLEOC Report – Plant Operation Service Report

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-546.2

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe and responsible.

Objective 5.1: Create and maintain a safe and respectful school environment.

Presenter(s): Dr. Ben Matthews (Deputy Chief Financial Officer for Operations, Safe and Healthy Schools Support Division) and Mr. Kim Lawson (Section Chief, Plant Operation Section)

Description:

DPI shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) by April 15 of each year on the effectiveness of the program in accomplishing its purpose and on any other information requested by the committee. Statutory Outline of the Accomplishments of Plant Operation during FY 2014-15.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the State Board of Education receive this report.

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Mr. Coby noted that ES&P Committee Chair Dr. Olivia Oxendine would not be able to attend the meeting as she had planned due to continuing family health issues. ES&P Vice Chair Eric Davis was recognized to guide the ES&P agenda discussion.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION AGENDA
EDUCATOR STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Dr. Olivia Oxendine, Chair; Mr. Eric Davis, Vice Chair)

ACTION

ES&P 1 – Policies on General Licensure Requirements

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #TCP-A-001

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent educators.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support highly effective teachers.

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent), Dr. Thomas R. Tomberlin (Director, Educator Human Capital Policy and Research), Dr. Lynne C. Johnson (Director, Educator Effectiveness) and Susan Ruiz (Section Chief, Licensure)

Description:

NCDPI recommends a number of changes to teacher licensure and evaluation processes, which have an impact on several existing State Board of Education policies. The attached document provides the definition of a highly qualified elementary and Exceptional Children school teacher. The names of license types are changed from Standard Professional 1 (SP1) and Standard Professional 2 (SP2) to Initial and Continuing, respectively. If approved, these policy changes will be effective beginning the 2016-17 school year, with the exception of the highly-qualified definition for the 2015-16 school year that will be effective April 1, 2016, through the end of the 2015-16 school year. The policy also eliminates the six credit hour per year requirement for lateral entry and Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers. Teachers will have three years to complete all coursework requirements. If approved, the proposed changes will be effective for 2015-16 school year.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the evaluation and licensure policy changes on the attached list be approved by the SBE.

Discussion/Comments:

- ES&P Committee Vice Chair Eric Davis reiterated that this item was to help define a highly qualified elementary and exceptional children school teacher. This item had also been placed on the agenda to change the name of license type Standard Professional 1 (SP1) to Initial and Standard Professional 2 (SP2) to Continuing.
- There was no further discussion.
-

Upon motion by Mr. Eric Davis, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the evaluation and licensure policy changes as presented. (See Attachment ES&P 1)

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ACTION

ES&P 2 – Policies on the Beginning Teacher Support Program

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #TCP-A-004

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent educators.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support highly effective teachers.

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent), Dr. Thomas R. Tomberlin (Director, Educator Human Capital Policy and Research), Dr. Lynne C. Johnson (Director, Educator Effectiveness) and Susan Ruiz (Section Chief, Licensure)

Description:

The NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) recommends a number of changes to teacher licensure and evaluation processes, which have an impact on several existing State Board of Education policies. For SBE Policy #TCP-A-004, NCDPI recommends including lateral entry teachers in the Beginning Teacher Process at the time of hire, and removing the requirement for LEAs/charter schools to recommend teachers for conversion to a Continuing license. If approved, the policy will take effect at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the evaluation and licensure policy changes on the attached list be approved by the SBE.

Discussion/Comments:

- ES&P Committee Vice Chair Eric Davis reminded the audience that this item was a recommendation to include lateral entry teachers in the Beginning Teacher Support Process at the time of hire and to remove the requirement for LEA or charter schools to recommend teachers for conversion to a Continuing license.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Eric Davis, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy changes for the beginning teacher support program as presented. (See Attachment ES&P 2)

ACTION

ES&P 3 – Policies on Standards and Criteria for Evaluation of Professional School Employees

Policy Implications: SBE Policy TCP-A-006

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent educators.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support highly effective teachers.

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Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent), Dr. Thomas R. Tomberlin (Director, Educator Human Capital Policy and Research) and Dr. Lynne C. Johnson (Director, Educator Effectiveness)

Description:

The NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) recommends a number of changes to teacher licensure and evaluation processes, which have an impact on several existing State Board of Education policies. For SBE Policy #TCP-C-006, NCDPI recommends the removal of student (Standard 6 for teachers) and school (Standard 8 for principals) growth as stand-alone standards in the teacher and principal evaluation processes. If approved, the policy will be effective beginning with the 2016-17 school year.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the evaluation and licensure policy changes on the attached list be approved by the State Board of Education.

Discussion/Comments:

- ES&P Committee Vice Chair Eric Davis stated that this item is on the agenda to recommend the removal of student (Standard 6 for teachers) and school (Standard 8 for principals) growth as stand-alone standards in the teacher and principal evaluation process. Mr. Davis explained that he wanted to make clear that the policy changes do not change use of growth as an effective measure to determine how well students are doing and for providing feedback to teachers; the changes clarify the Board's intent to use growth toward teaching and learning.
- Chairman Cobey noted that this is an important change and invited members to make any comments.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Eric Davis, and seconded by Vice Chairman A.L. Collins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the changes to policies on standards and criteria for evaluation of professional school employees as presented. (See Attachment ES&P 3)

ACTION

ES&P 4 – Policy Establishing the Teacher Performance Appraisal Process

Policy Implications: SBE Policy #TCP-C-004

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent educators.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support highly effective teachers.

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent), Dr. Thomas R. Tomberlin (Director, Educator Human Capital Policy and Research) and Dr. Lynne C. Johnson (Director, Educator Effectiveness)

Description:

The NC Department of Public Instruction recommends a number of changes to teacher licensure and evaluation processes, which have an impact on several existing State Board of Education policies. For SBE Policy #TCP-C-004, NCDPI recommends removing references to Standard 6 from the evaluation

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process and removing proficiency requirements for clearing a professional license. If approved, the policy will be effective beginning with the 2016-17 school year.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the evaluation and licensure policy changes on the attached list be approved by the State Board of Education.

Discussion/Comments:

- ES&P Committee Vice Chair Eric Davis stated that this item was on the agenda with a recommendation to remove references to Standard 6 from the evaluation process and remove proficiency requirements for clearing a professional license.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Eric Davis, and seconded by Mr. Buddy Collins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the evaluation and licensure policy changes as presented. (See Attachment ES&P 4)

EDUCATION INNOVATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT
(Ms. Rebecca Taylor, Chair; Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

EICS 6 – Applications for Reform Models

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-105.37B; SBE Policy (Recurring Low-Performing Schools)

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education, and citizenship.

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students prepared for postsecondary education.

Objective 1.3: Graduate students pursuing a Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentration prepared for careers.

Objective 1.4: Reduce the percentage of students needing remediation in postsecondary education.

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state's End-of-Grade (EOG) and End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent) and Dr. Nancy Barbour (Director, District and School Transformation, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent)

Description:

A recurring low-performing school is a school that has been low performing for two of the previous three consecutive years. LEAs are given the opportunity to apply for one of four reform models (Transformation, Turnaround, Restart, and Closure), complete an application when needed and submit

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to the State Board of Education for approval. The materials included are applications submitted for the following schools:

- Barwell Road Elementary (Wake County)
- Walnut Creek Elementary (Wake County)
- E.M. Rollins Elementary (Vance County)
- Goldsboro High School (Wayne County)
- Haw River Elementary (Alamance-Burlington Schools)

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the proposed policy.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor recognized Dr. Nancy Barbour to present this item.
- Dr. Barbour noted that she is a graduate of UNCW and felt like a pioneer and that the schools involved in this reform process are pioneers as well.
- Vice Chairman Collins noted that this was an innovative and forward thinking part of the turnaround process, noting that it is difficult to reform a school while you are running a school district. He encouraged the department to take note of extra needs required by turnaround schools.
- Dr. Barbour requested that the Board give preliminary approval of the applications submitted.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Rebecca Taylor, and seconded by Mr. Greg Alcorn, the Board voted unanimously to give preliminary approval of the applications for a reform model for Barwell Road Elementary School, Walnut Creek Elementary School, E.M. Rollins Elementary School, Goldsboro High School, and Haw River Elementary. (See Attachment EICS 6) (This item will return for final approval by the Board in May after review by legal, financial, and Exceptional Children staff.)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

EICS 7 – Ignite Charter School’s Request to Amend Its Charter

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Dr. Kebbler Williams (Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

Ignite Innovation Academy - Pitt (Pitt County) requests that the State Board of Education (SBE) allow them to open with grades K-6 instead of grades K-5, as originally indicated in their application. In January 2015, the State Board of Education granted final approval to Ignite Innovation Academy - Pitt to open in August 2015, but the board of the school requested a delayed opening in April 2015. The

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SBE granted Ignite’s request for delay in June 2015. Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt is now scheduled to open in August 2016.

In a March 2016 letter to the Office of Charter Schools, the nonprofit board that oversees Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt states that it wishes to open with grades K-6 instead of K-5 because it would like to honor its commitment to the students who attempted to enroll as fifth graders for the fall of 2015 who will now be sixth graders in the fall of 2016. In the board’s view, this will help families who have multiple children to not have to deal with those students being in different schools. The board’s request letter, which is included as an attachment, outlines this request.

Ignite Innovation Academy - Pitt’s original proposed grade levels and projected student enrollment are listed in the table below:

Academic School Year	Grade Levels	Total Projected Student Enrollment
First Year: 2015-2016	K,01,02,03,04,05	216
Second Year: 2016-2017	K,01,02,03,04,05,06	252
Third Year: 2017-2018	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07	288
Fourth Year: 2018-2019	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	324
Fifth Year: 2019-2020	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	360

Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt’s requested new proposed grade levels and projected student enrollment for the four years of operation remaining within its approved charter term are listed in the table below:

Academic School Year	Grade Levels	Total Projected Student Enrollment
First Year: 2016-17	K,01,02,03,04,05,06	252
Second Year: 2017-18	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07	324
Third Year: 2018-19	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	360
Fourth Year: 2019-20	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	396

Note: Since Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt will be delayed in opening by one school year, and since that year will count as a year of what will become the signed charter agreement (see EICS 1), the school will only serve students for four years of its initial five year charter.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this request for Ignite Innovation Academy - Pitt.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor reminded the Board that this item is presented for Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt to amend its charter, received permission to delay opening in June 2015, and are now scheduled to open in August 2016. The school would like to open with grades K-6 instead of grades K-5.

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- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Rebecca Taylor, and seconded by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, the State Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the request for Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt to open with Grades K-6 in the fall of 2016. (See Attachment EICS 7)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

EICS 8 – Kennedy Charter School Review Panel Decision

Policy Implications: Session Law 2014104 (H884)

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith (Lead Education Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

On Thursday, April 29, 2016, a three-body appeal panel for the State Board of Education met to discuss the nonrenewal decision for Kennedy Charter School. During the appeal discussion information was presented from staff of NC Department of Public Instruction and representatives from Kennedy Charter School.

This charter school previously appeared before the Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) at its December 2015 meeting. At that meeting, the CSAB, by an overwhelming majority, recommended that the State Board of Education not renew the charter for Kennedy Charter School. The State Board of Education (SBE) unanimously voted during its February 2016 meeting to accept the recommendation of the CSAB and voted not to renew the charter for Kennedy Charter School.

Kennedy Charter School was notified of the State Board's decision of nonrenewal and was afforded an opportunity to appeal the decision. The nonprofit boards did appeal the SBE's decision and an Appeal Review Panel was convened on April 29, 2016. The panel consisted of three members; one SBE member and two members of the CSAB. This panel received information from the Department of Public Instruction and heard from representatives of the charter school. After hearing all of the information, the panel convened to deliberate and make a recommendation to the State Board of Education.

Recommendations:

The appeal panel recommends that the State Board of Education accept its recommendation regarding Kennedy Charter School.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor recognized Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith to present this item.
- Board member Eric Davis recused himself from the discussion and vote.

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- Vice Chairman Collins inquired as to whether the Board should characterize this as a vote not to reconsider the former motion. In response, Board Attorney Katie Cornetto stated that Ms. Taylor’s wording was acceptable.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Ms. Rebecca Taylor, and seconded by Mr. Reginald Kenan, the State Board of Education voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the SBE Appeal Review Panel regarding Kennedy Charter School. (See Attachment EICS 8)

EDUCATION INNOVATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT (Ms. Rebecca Taylor, Chair; Mr. Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair)

DISCUSSION

EICS 9 – Request for One-Year Delay for Peak Charter Academy

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith (Lead Education Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Peak Charter Academy (Wake County) requests that the State Board of Education grant them a one-year delay in opening the charter school. In June 2015, the State Board of Education granted final approval to Peak Charter Academy to open in August 2016.

In a March 2016 letter to the Office of Charter Schools, the nonprofit board that oversees Peak Charter Academy states that its management company, National Heritage Academies, has experienced unexpected construction delays and issues with land acquisition. The board’s request letter, which is included as an attachment, outlines the situation it currently faces.

Per their approved application, Peak Charter Academy planned to open a K-6 school initially. As part of its request to delay opening, it has also requested (see EICS 4) to open as a K-7 school and expand one grade per year until the school is a full K-8 school serving over 900 students. The school's mission is as follows: “Our school develops students into critical thinkers, active collaborators, and eager contributors to their learning, thereby imparting students with the skills to excel in college, careers, and life.” The school will use an instructional platform focused on academic rigor, critical thinking, content mastery, and character development.

The Office of Charter Schools supports Peak Charter Academy’s request for delayed opening with the following stipulations:

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1. The delayed year, within which the charter school does not serve students, will count as a year of what will become the signed charter agreement.
2. The board will provide monthly progress reports to the Office of Charter Schools regarding board meetings, marketing plans, and facility construction.
3. The board will present a Certificate of Occupancy for Education Use to the Office of Charter Schools no later than July 1, 2017. If that document is not presented, then the remainder of the charter term will be null and void, meaning that the board would need to submit a new application in a future application round in order to obtain a charter.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this one-year delay for Peak Charter Academy with the above stipulations.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor commented that this item is similar to the request of Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt in that Peak Charter Academy is requesting a one-year delay to open.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment EICS 9)

DISCUSSION

EICS 10 – Peak Charter Academy’s Request to Amend its Charter

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools), and Dr. Kebbler Williams (Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

Peak Charter Academy (Wake County) requests that the State Board of Education (SBE) allow them to open with grades K-7 instead of grades K-6, as originally indicated in their application. In June 2015, the State Board of Education granted final approval to Peak Charter Academy to open in August 2016, but now the board of Peak Charter Academy has requested a delayed opening until August 2017 (see EICS 1).

In a March 2016 letter to the Office of Charter Schools, the nonprofit board that oversees Peak Charter Academy states that it wishes to open with grades K-7 instead of K-6 because it would like to honor its commitment to the students who attempted to enroll as sixth graders for the fall of 2016 who will now be seventh graders in the fall of 2017. The board would also like for their own children who will be

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seventh graders in 2017 to have the opportunity to enroll in the school. The board's request letter, which is included as an attachment, outlines this request.

Peak Charter Academy's original proposed grade levels and projected student enrollment for its initially-chartered five years of operation are listed in the table below:

Academic School Year	Grade Levels	Total Projected Student Enrollment
First Year: 2016-17	K,01,02,03,04,05,06	573
Second Year: 2017-18	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07	685
Third Year: 2018-19	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	797
Fourth Year: 2019-20	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	853
Fifth Year: 2020-21	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	909

Peak Charter Academy's requested new proposed grade levels and projected student enrollment for the four years of operation remaining within its approved charter term are listed in the table below:

Academic School Year	Grade Levels	Total Projected Student Enrollment
First Year: 2017-18	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07	685
Second Year: 2018-19	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	797
Third Year: 2019-20	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	853
Fourth Year: 2020-21	K,01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08	909

Note: Since Peak will be delayed in opening by one school year, and since that year will count as a year of what will become the signed charter agreement (see EICS 1), the school will only serve students for four years of its initial five year charter.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this request for Peak Charter Academy.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor explained that this item is similar to the request of Ignite Innovation Academy – Pitt in that Peak Charter Academy is requesting to open as K-7 school.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment EICS 10)

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DISCUSSION

EICS 11 – Recommendations on Application Process, Timeline, and Content

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218; SBE Policy #TCS-U-012

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith (Lead Education Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

Per State Board of Education (SBE) Policy #TCS-U-12, the SBE must approve the charter school application process and timeline prior to each application round. The Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB), with input from the NCDPI Office of Charter Schools (OCS), has recommended unanimously several modifications to the prior year application process and timeline. These modifications are reflected in the attached proposed 2016 Application Timeline and Process.

The CSAB, with input from OCS, also has recommended unanimously several modifications to the prior year Charter Application. These changes are designed to streamline the application, thereby reducing burden on applicants, reviewers, and NCDPI administrators. Changes include clarifying language, removing duplicative questions, combining multiple charter applications (standard and “fast track”), restructuring the scoring rubric, and soliciting additional information. The attached documents explain each of these suggested changes.

Recommendations:

The CSAB recommends that the State Board of Education approve the application changes and the 2016 process and timeline.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor recognized Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith to present this item.
- Dr. Townsend-Smith commented on the approval process for charter schools and proposed to fold fast-track application process into the regular round.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment EICS 11)

DISCUSSION

EICS 12 – Recommended Amendments to Charter Agreement

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-218; Changes to Charter Agreement to reflect provisions of S.L. 2014-248 (H334) and Office of Charter Schools Procedures

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SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools), and Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith (Lead Education Consultant, Office of Charter Schools)

Description:

In order to implement statutory changes contained in North Carolina Session Law 2014-248 (H334) and to ensure alignment with NCDPI Office of Charter Schools procedures, the Charter School Advisory Board recommends three changes to the Charter Agreement.

The recommended changes and their legislative antecedents are as follows:

Application-Binding

Section 3 of the attached document contains the proposed change to section 3.2 of the current Charter Agreement. Section 25 of the attached Charter Agreement currently addresses charter school performance making 3.2 duplicative and unnecessary. The NCDPI Office of Charter Schools, per the State Board of Education, reviews charter school performance annually. Additionally, the self-selected goals of a charter school may contradict statutory and State Board of Education requirements.

Grade Expansion

Section 7 of the attached document contains the proposed change to section 7.1 of the current Charter Agreement to reflect the updated requirement that a *Public Charter School is allowed to expand to offer one grade higher or lower than the charter school currently offers if the charter school has (i) operated for at least three years and years, (ii) has not been identified as having inadequate performance as provided in G.S. §115C-218.95(b).G.S. §115C-218.95(b), and (iii) has been in financial compliance as required by the State Board of Education.* The State Board was not required legislatively to make this change, but the changes conform the application to the following sections of S.L. 2014-248 (H334):

SECTION 5. G.S. §115C-218.5 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-218.5. Final approval of applications for charter schools.

(f) It shall not be considered a material revision of a charter application and shall not require prior approval of the State Board for a charter school to do any of the following:

(1) Increase its enrollment during the charter school's second year of operation and annually thereafter by up to twenty percent (20%) of the school's previous year's enrollment.

(2) Increase its enrollment during the charter school's second year of operation and annually thereafter in accordance with planned growth as authorized in its charter.

(3) Expand to offer one grade higher or lower than the charter school currently offers if the charter school has (i) operated for at least three years and years, (ii) has not been identified as having inadequate performance as provided in G.S. §115C-218.95(b).G.S. §115C-218.95(b), and (iii) has been in financial compliance as required by the State Board of Education.

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Fees

Section 17 of the attached document contains the CSAB's proposed change to section 17 of the current Charter Agreement to reflect updated requirements that *[a] charter school shall not charge tuition or fees except as follows: (1) A charter school may charge any fees that are charged by the local school administrative unit in which the charter school is located. (2) A charter school, upon approval by the board of directors of the charter school, may establish fees for extracurricular activities, except those fees shall not exceed the fees for the same extracurricular activities charged by a local school administrative unit in which forty percent (40%) or more of the students enrolled in the charter school reside.* These changes conform the application to the following sections of S.L. 2014-248 (H334):

SECTION 7. G.S. 115C-218.50 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-218.50. Charter school nonsectarian.

- (a) A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations and shall not charge tuition or fees, except that a charter school may charge any fees that are charged by the local school administrative unit in which the charter school is located. A charter school shall not be affiliated with a nonpublic sectarian school or a religious institution.
- (b) A charter school shall not charge tuition or fees except as follows:
 - (1) A charter school may charge any fees that are charged by the local school administrative unit in which the charter school is located.
 - (2) A charter school, upon approval by the board of directors of the charter school, may establish fees for extracurricular activities, except those fees shall not exceed the fees for the same extracurricular activities charged by a local school administrative unit in which forty percent (40%) or more of the students enrolled in the charter school reside.

Recommendations:

The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommends that the State Board of Education approve these changes to the Charter Agreement.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor recognized Dr. Deanna Townsend-Smith to present this item.
- Dr. Townsend-Smith gave a short overview, noting that this item would bring current policy in compliance with recent legislation.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment EICS 12)

DISCUSSION

EICS 13 – Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee: Dropout Prevention Pilot Report Policy Implications: S.L. 2014-104 (H884)

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SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 1.4: Increase the number of charter schools meeting academic, operational, and financial goals.

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Adam Levinson (Interim Director, Office of Charter Schools) and Mrs. Debora Williams (Director, Dropout Prevention)

Description:

Per North Carolina Session Law 2014-104 (House Bill 884), the State Board of Education “shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 15, 2016, on the outcomes of the Dropout Prevention and Recovery Pilot Program, including [the following:]

- (i) the number of students who dropped out of high school, enrolled in the program, and completed a high school diploma,
- (ii) the results of the alternative accountability model, and
- (iii) the impact on the ADM Contingency Reserve. The report shall also include any recommendations to enhance the effectiveness and the efficiency of the Pilot Program funding and accountability models.”

The attached draft report will fulfill this requirement.

Recommendations:

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this report for submission to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) of the NC General Assembly.

Discussion/Comments:

- EICS Committee Chair Rebecca Taylor recognized Mr. Adam Levinson to present this item.
- Mr. Levinson noted a delay initially in receiving student data and but that staff can now move forward with the data that they have. He reminded Board members that the Board has received further information on Commonwealth pilot. Chairman Cobey commented that the information that was received was a lot of information and queried if Commonwealth should provide information through the standard data collection process. Mr. Levinson explained that this item is coming back for Action during the Board’s May meeting and as such submission to the JLEOC will be delayed
- Board member Eric Davis suggested not to expand the pilot since it is only one school, noting that there should be at least three years of data and agreed with Vice Chairman Collins.
- This item is to go back to the Charter School Advisory Board (CSAB) for further vetting and return to the SBE. Mr. Levinson explained that the purpose of introducing this item to the State Board today was to gather comment’s to be shared with the CSAB.
- Mr. Collins said he would be interested in knowing at what level graduates are entering community colleges or four-year institutions.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment EICS 13)

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STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT
(Mr. Eric C. Davis, Chair; and Dr. Olivia Oxendine, Vice Chair)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

SLA 5 – Career and College Ready Report to the General Assembly

Policy Implications: Session Law 215.41

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education and citizenship.

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students prepared for postsecondary education.

Objective 1.4: Reduce the percentage of students needing remediation in postsecondary education.

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state’s End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Goal 2: Every student has a personalized education.

Objective 2.1: Increase the number of students who graduate from high school with postsecondary credit.

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent) and Dr. Lisa Chapman (NC Community Colleges)

Description:

The NC Community College System (NCCCS) staff, along with the staff from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), collaborated on remedial programs in support of the career and college ready graduate legislation. For the 2016-17 academic year, the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) and the State Board of Education (SBE) are recommending regional pilots employing remediation models that incorporate components and strategies already being used in several communities. The models include the NROC Project focused on college and career readiness, a Transition Center program, and the SREB Math Ready Program. The criteria for determining whether a student would be required to participate in the remedial program would be based upon the student’s performance on current College Transfer Career and College Promise (CCP) pathway requirements. During the 2016-17 academic year, the pilots would be monitored by a state-level committee comprised of NC Community College faculty and staff, staff from the NC Community College System Office, faculty from selected local high schools, staff from district central offices, and staff from DPI to determine the effectiveness of each model and which approaches should be scaled statewide. In addition, during the pilot year, professional development plans would be designed for high school faculty to use in delivering the curriculum.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the SBE accept the report and approve its being transmitted to the General Assembly by the NC Community College System Office. The Department strongly supports a pilot year and feels areas of concern regarding the development and implementation of the final plan can be worked out in partnership with the Community College System office.

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Discussion/Comments:

- SLA Committee Chair Eric Davis recognized Dr. Rebecca Garland to present this item.
- Through a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Garland shared the concern that many students are not career and college ready in reading/English (ELA), math or both and are caught in developmental courses. A solution was proposed to offer mandatory ELA and/or math remedial courses during the senior year; curriculum, assessment, passing score, and professional development would be overseen by Community College faculty. Dr. Garland shared the criteria for placement. She noted that the Community College System had developed the plan with some input from DPI staff with a recommendation to pilot at seven colleges in the 2016-17 school year with professional development plans to be developed in 2016-17 as well. She stated that what is presented to the Board is a “plan to continue to plan.”
- In addition, Dr. Garland stated explained that one issue not addressed is the issue of not having a fiscal note attached to the legislation.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Eric C. Davis, and seconded by Mr. Greg Alcorn, the State Board of Education voted unanimously to accept the Career and College Ready report and approve its transmittal to the General Assembly by the NC Community College System Office. (See Attachment SLA 5)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

SLA 6 – Technical Changes to the Recurring Low-Performing Schools Policy – THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA

Policy Implications: General Statute 11 5C-105.37B; New Policy

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education, and citizenship.

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students prepared for postsecondary education.

Objective 1.3: Graduate students pursuing a Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentration prepared for careers.

Objective 1.4: Reduce the percentage of students needing remediation in postsecondary education.

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state’s End-of-Grade (EOG) and End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent) and Dr. Nancy Barbour (Director, District and School Transformation, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent)

Description:

The new policy establishing Recurring Low-Performing Schools and reform model options requires an addition of a semi-colon within the Restart Model summary, after the word “organization” found on page 2. This addition clarifies the requirement for a budget submission in the application process for all applicants applying for the Restart Model.

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Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the proposed policy.

(SLA Committee Chair Mr. Eric Davis requested this item be pulled from the agenda to be referred back to committee. This request was approved by consensus and so noted during acceptance of the day's agenda.)

DISCUSSION

SLA 7 – Revised Policy for the State Advisory Council on Indian Education

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-210.1; SBE Policy #TCS-B-001

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education and citizenship.

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students pursuing for postsecondary education.

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state's End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent educators.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support highly effective teachers

Objective 3.2: Increase the number of teachers of teachers and students using digital learning tools

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible

Objective 5.1: Create and maintain a safe and respectful school environment.

Objective 5.2: Promote healthy, active lifestyles for students.

Objective 5.3: Decrease the number of students who are chronically absent, dropout, or suspended out of school.

Objective 5.4: Decrease violence and crime in schools.

Presenter(s): Ms. Debora Williams (Special Assistant, State Advisory Council on Indian Education Liaison)

Description

North Carolina General Statute 115C-210.1 regarding the composition of the State Advisory Council on Indian Education was revised during the 2015 legislative session. Technical revisions to State Board of Education Policy are submitted to reflect the changes to the statute.

Recommendation(s):

State Board members are requested to accept the technical changes to the policy in order to reflect the changes in statute.

Discussion/Comments:

- SLA Committee Chair Eric Davis recognized Ms. Debora Williams to present this item.
- Ms. Williams noted that the revisions noted in SBE Policy #TCS-B-001 are the revisions in General Statute §115C-210.1, approved by the NC General Assembly in the last legislative session. Primary

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revisions change 1) the composition of members from eight parents and two educators to five parents and five educators and 2) the two higher education members appointed by the UNC Board of Governors is changed to one appointment from the UNC Board of Governors and one from the Community College System.

- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment SLA 7)

DISCUSSION

SLA 8 – State Advisory Council on Indian Education Membership

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-210.1; SBE Policy #TCS-B-001

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education and citizenship

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students pursuing for postsecondary education.

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state's End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Goal 3: Every student, every day has excellent educators.

Objective 3.1: Develop and support highly effective teachers. **Objective 3.2:** Increase the number of teachers of teachers and students using digital learning tools.

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible.

Objective 5.1: Create and maintain a safe and respectful school environment,

Objective 5.2: Promote healthy, active lifestyles for students,

Objective 5.3: Decrease the number of students who are chronically absent, dropout, or suspended out of school,

Objective 5.4: Decrease violence and crime in schools,

Presenter(s): Ms. Debora Williams (Special Assistant, State Advisory Council on Indian Education Liaison)

Description

The State Advisory Council on Indian Education (SACIE) serves a vital role in advising the State Board of Education on issues pertaining to the education of American Indian students. The SACIE has a 15-member board, which consists of five American Indian parents of students enrolled in K-12 public schools, five American Indian K-12 educators (one member shall be a Title VII administrator), two legislative members, two American Indian members from higher education (preferably faculty), and one American Indian member from the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs (NCCIA). Parent and educator memberships are recommended by the NCCIA. As directed by General Statute §115C-210, the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs recommends the following individuals for membership on the council:

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Chenoa Richardson Davis
Assistant Principal
Warren County Schools
Haliwa-Saponi

Connie Locklear
Title VII Coordinator
Public Schools of Robeson County
Lumbee

Gwendolyn D. Jones
Parent
Cumberland County
Navajo

Tiffany R. Pearson
Educator
Cumberland County
Lumbee

Recommendation(s):

State Board of Education members are requested to discuss and review the proposed names submitted for membership on the council.

Discussion/Comments:

- SLA Committee Chair Eric Davis recognized Ms. Debora Williams to present this item.
- Ms. Williams noted that the NC Commission of Indian Affairs has submitted the names of four individuals for membership on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education: one re-appointment, Ms. Chenoa Davis (Haliwa-Saponi); three new members, Ms. Connie Locklear (Lumbee), Ms. Gwendolyn Jones (Navajo), and Ms. Tiffany Pearson (Lumbee).
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment SLA 8)

DISCUSSION

SLA 9 – Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs)/Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) Policy Revision

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-105.20, 115C-105.35; SBE Policies #GCS-A-012, GCS-C-020, GCS-C-021, GCS-C-038

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Every student in the NC Public School System graduates from high school prepared for work, further education, and citizenship.

Objective 1.1: Increase the cohort graduation rate.

Objective 1.2: Graduate students prepared for postsecondary education.

Objective 1.3: Graduate students pursuing a Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentration prepared for careers.

Objective 1.4: Reduce the percentage of students needing remediation in postsecondary education.

Objective 1.5: Increase student performance on the state's End-of-Grade (EOG) and End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments and on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Deputy State Superintendent, Office of the Deputy State Superintendent) and Dr. Tammy Howard (Director, Accountability Services)

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Description

The Elementary and Secondary Education ACT (ESEA) was originally authorized through 1965; however, the government has reauthorized the act every five years since its enactment. On December 10, 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which reauthorizes ESEA. The previous version of ESEA was known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). ESSA eliminates some of the requirements specified in NCLB.

In order to ensure an orderly transition from ESEA requirements under NCLB to those under the ESSA, the U.S. Department of Education has informed states that the following progress measures will no longer be required to be reported:

1. Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) based on data from the 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 school years;
2. Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) data based on data from the 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 school years.

A state may choose to either elect or not elect to continue reporting AMOs and AMAOs. A state must continue to provide support to the schools currently identified as needing improvement based on the most recent AMAO calculations. In North Carolina, there are currently 33 schools in improvement for missing AMAOs for two consecutive years, 18 schools in improvement for missing AMAOs for three consecutive years, and 15 schools in improvement for missing AMAOs for four consecutive years.

With the transition to ESSA and a new accountability model being developed for implementation in 2017-18, it is recommended that the State Board of Education (SBE) not report AMOs and AMAOs for the 2015-16 and the 2016-17 school years.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the State Board of Education rescind SBE Policy #GCS-A-012 and approve the edits to SBE policies GCS-C-020, GCS-C-021, and GCS-C-038.

Discussion/Comments:

- SLA Committee Chair Eric Davis recognized Dr. Tammy Howard to present this item.
- Dr. Howard commented that with the enactment of Every Student Succeeds Act, the US Department of Education has notified states that it is not required to report Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) or Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for the 2015-16 school year and the 2016-17 school year. This item recommends deletion of the requirement for reporting AMOs and AMAOs in SBE policies, and AMOs and AMAOs are targets based on the percent of students who are proficient. The state will still report disaggregated data on student achievement.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment SLA 9)

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HEALTHY, RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS
(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair; Mr. Eric Davis, Vice Chair)

DISCUSSION

HRS 3 – Interscholastic Athletic Policy Update

Policy Implications: General Statute 115C-47(4); SBE Policy HRS-D-001

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible.

Objective 5.2: Promote healthy and active lifestyles for students.

Presenter(s): Dr. Tiffany Perkins (Director, Division of K-12 Curriculum and Instruction) and Dr. Ellen Essick (Section Chief, NC Healthy Schools)

Description:

The policy regarding interscholastic athletics was first adopted in 1995 for public school student participation. At that time, charter schools did not exist. As a result, the language of the interscholastic policy is currently not reflective of charter school participation in athletics. Changes to the policy are to reflect the inclusion of charter school students in interscholastic participation, as they are public school students

Recommendation(s):

State Board of Education members are asked to review and discuss the proposed changes to the existing policy.

Discussion/Comments:

- HRS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby recognized Dr. Ellen Essick to present this item.
- Dr. Essick commented that this item is presented to clarify that the policy applies to public charter schools as well as traditional public schools regarding non-participation of sixth-graders in interscholastic sports.
- Vice Chairman A.L. Collins raised a question as to why a Board policy is needed, specifically why this issue is not a local decision.
- Board Attorney Katie Cornetto clarified liability issues and also noted that the Board is charged to do so in General Statute §115C-12(23), Powers and duties of the Board generally.
- Superintendent Advisor Rodney Shotwell (President of the High School Athletic Association) articulated that the association does have concerns about 6th graders participating in interscholastic sports. He noted that any considerations about 6th graders are referred to the health and safety issues committee of medical professionals.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment HRS 3)

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DISCUSSION

HRS 4 – Middle School Athletic Manual Updates

Policy Implications: General Statute §115C-47(4); SBE Policy #HRS-D-001

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 5: Every student is healthy, safe, and responsible.

Objective 5.2: Promote healthy and active lifestyles for students.

Presenter(s): Dr. Tiffany Perkins (Director, Division of K-12 Curriculum and Instruction) and Dr. Ellen Essick (Section Chief, NC Healthy Schools)

Description:

Changes to the Middle/Junior High School Athletic Manual reflect recent policy and rule changes and alignment with best practices for safety for student athletes.

Recommendation(s):

State Board of Education members are asked to review and comment on the proposed changes to the manual.

Discussion/Comments:

- HRS Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby recognized Dr. Ellen Essick to present this item.
- Dr. Essick commented that this item is presented to bring the manual in alignment with recently revised legislative action.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented for Discussion during the April State Board of Education meeting and will return for Action at the May meeting. (See Attachment HRS 4)

BUSINESS OPERATIONS BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT (Mr. Gregory Alcorn, Chair; Mr. Kevin Howell, Vice Chair)

ACTION ON FIRST READING

BSOP 2 – School Nutrition – Equipment Assistance Grant

Policy Implications: Grant

SBE Strategic Plan:

Goal 4: Every school district has up-to-date financial, business, and technology systems to serve its students, parents, and educators.

Objective 4.3: Use state and federal funding according to state and federal laws and State Board of Education policies

Presenter(s): Dr. Ben Matthews (Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Safe and Healthy School Support Division) and Dr. Lynn Harvey (Section Chief, School Nutrition Section)

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Description:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued a one-time appropriation to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) in the amount of \$800,382.00 to be used for grants to School Food Authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) for the purchase of commercial equipment for use in the preparation and service of nutritious, appealing school meals. The USDA requires preference be given to schools where 50% or more of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals when awarding the grants or the Identified Student Percentage (ISP) exceed fifty percent. SFAs must have the capacity to manage these funds as demonstrated by their compliance with all Federal regulations that govern the NSLP. (*Note: School Food Authorities include Public, Charter and Non-Public Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions.)

Guidance for state agencies administering the grant has been provided by the Food and Nutrition Service of the USDA. According to the guidance, equipment is defined as “nonexpendable, tangible property with a useful life of more than one year and a per unit acquisition cost of \$5,000.” Therefore, grants may not be awarded for a lesser amount.

A Request for Application (RFA) was issued to all SFAs on October 15, 2015. Applications were returned to the state agency on or before the deadline of December 16, 2015. SFAs were required to complete an SFA Application Summary, that enabled the SFA to prioritize their equipment requests, and a School Application that described the specific school for which the equipment was requested. Applications were required to provide the following information: total school enrollment, percentage of students that qualify for free or reduced price meals or the SFA’s ISP, the school’s average daily meal participation, an equipment specification, and a copy of the most responsive quote or bid from a qualified vendor. In accordance with USDA guidance, SFAs were required to justify equipment needs based on the achievement of one or more of the following goals:

1. Improve food safety and quality,
2. Increase energy efficiency,
3. Increase student participation,
4. Improve nutrition integrity or implement nutrition standards and/or,
5. Allow for the adoption of innovative meal service strategies.

State agencies were allowed to expand upon these goals. The NCDPI chose to add a sixth goal, which was that the equipment requested would better equip the school to use more locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables in the school nutrition programs. Collectively, the information required in the application and the SFA’s justification, based on achieving the goals shown above, provided the criteria for awarding the grants.

A Selection Committee reviewed all applications. The applications were scored based upon the objective criteria described on the previous page. Applications receiving the highest total scores were ranked by score. Available funds were allocated to the applications receiving the highest scores. All reasonable efforts were made to distribute funds equitably based on SFA size, geographic location, and available funds.

SFAs will be notified of their grant award(s) upon approval of the SBE. Grant funds will be allotted to the awardees through the department’s allotment system. Reporting requirements will be issued simultaneously with the grant award. SFAs will be required to expend the grant funds, in their entirety, by September 1, 2016. The NCDPI will issue its final report to the USDA once confirmation has been received by all awardees that the equipment has been successfully installed and is in use by the SFA.

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Recommendation(s):

It is recommended the State Board of Education approve the Equipment Assistance Grant Award Recipients as presented in the attached document.

Discussion/Comments:

- BSOP Committee Chair Greg Alcorn stated that this item was for dispersal of \$800,000 in funds to be used for grants to schools for the purchase of commercial food preparation equipment.
- There was no further discussion.

Upon motion by Mr. Greg Alcorn, and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the State Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the Equipment Assistance Grant Award Recipients as presented. (See Attachment BSOP 2)

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Update on Teacher Licensure System**

BSOP Committee Chair Greg Alcorn recognized Mr. Philip Price to address concerns about the teacher licensure application process.

Mr. Price noted staff are able to process 1,500 applications per week, which is a net reduction of 653 applications. Processing expectations have been exceeded after one month. The goal is to reduce the application pool by 40%. The biggest reduction in pending applications is related to people currently employed in districts by 55%.

Chairman Cobey asked for clarification of a steady-state in processing. Mr. Price responded that a steady-state is 3,000 applications. Mr. Cobey also inquired about the use of automation versus paper applications. In response Mr. Price explained that the Department still continues to receive paper applications; it is not creating a problem. Mr. Price also noted that not everyone is comfortable using the online system, such as those retired teachers who like to keep their license up to date. For that reason, the Department continues to accept paper applications. Charter schools are using and are encouraged to use the automated system.

Board member Eric Davis shared that, as a member of a local board, licensure processing is an issue that comes up frequently and thanked staff for their diligence in implementing the new approach to help relieve the backlog.

Board member Wayne McDevitt recalled a conversation regarding communication with applicants and/or the LEAs when there is insufficient or incomplete information. Mr. Price responded that the new system will require that the application be complete when submitted. Applicants can track their application in the system. According to Mr. Price, the Department is constantly working to improve the product.

UPDATE ON CONTRACTS

(See Attachment on eBoard)

BSOP Committee Chair Greg Alcorn encouraged Board members to review the update on contracts located on eBoard.

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CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

Chairman Cobey extended the Board’s appreciation to UNCW leadership, administrative support staff, and technical staff for their hospitality since Tuesday, as well as to Board members, advisors, and staff for their participation and work to prepare for the Planning and Work Session and Board meeting. He reminded the audience that the May meeting will be in held in Raleigh.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought before the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought before the Board.

CLOSED SESSION

Indicating no other business in Open Session, Chairman Cobey requested a motion to convene in Closed Session. He noted for the audience that immediately following adjournment of the Board’s Closed Session that the Board will adjourn its Open Session.

Upon motion made by Mr. Buddy Collins, and seconded by Mr. Greg Alcorn, the Board voted unanimously to convene in Closed Session to consult with its attorneys on attorney-client privileged matters, and to consider the handling of the following cases:

- (1) Crossroads Charter High School v. NCSBE;*
- (2) Dynamic Community Charter School V. NCSBE;*
- (3) Hoke County v. State of North Carolina and State Board of Education;*
- (4) Mergner v. State Board of Education; and*
- (5) Francin v. NCDPI*

ADJOURNMENT

Following adjournment of the Closed Session, Chairman Cobey requested a motion to adjourn the April 7, 2016, State Board of Education meeting.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. Eric C. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the April 7, 2016, State Board of Education meeting.